POPULATION TODAY

Vol. 15, No. 6 June 1987

FEATURES

3 PAA went to Chicago
1,100 demographers descended on the Windy City to speak, listen, confer, and mill at annual population meeting

4 Sadik named to head UN Fund for Population Activities
Physician and family planning specialist is the first woman to lead a UN specialized agency; her appointment follows Rafael Salas's death

4 The future of AIDS may (or may not) be exponential
Researchers differ on the dynamics of the disease's spread — and how promiscuous a person has to be to contract and spread the fatal virus

5 About 27 percent of Turkey's women use modern contraception (as of 1983)
Government survey cites inadequate contraceptive supply; national population program is two decades old

DEPARTMENTS

2 From the editor's desk
2 Speaking graphically
5 Survey report (Turkey)
9 Softwhere
9 Population update
10 Take a number
11 Current readings

You're never too young to attend a PAA session. (See page 3.)

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Once again, Barbara Walters failed to interview us. And altogether, news coverage of this year's annual meeting of the Population Association of America seemed modest compared to the importance of the subjects at hand – China, the marriage crunch, population growth, etc. (though covered by *PT*; see facing page).

All of which brings up the question of population vis à vis that traditional national whipping-person: the working press. There are a number of valiant ink-stained scriveners out there who toil in the population vineyards, as well as a larger number who write on social and economic statistics. But from many journalists' vantage, the world is a place of newsy cataclysmic events, not ambiguous, sneakily gradual trends like population.

The media perform the public service of getting vital information to the public at large. Sometimes, population news is vital information, and when it is, it may behoove journalists to heighten their appetite for numbers. Population people, for their part, might try being a little more helpful and more publicity-conscious: a news release desk at the next PAA meeting, perhaps, or snappy one-page summaries of recondite research, available on demand. As incentive, imagine yourself on the TV-light-flooded couch, intoning those magic words: "Well, Barbara, what we're seeing is . . ."

– Art Haupt

SPEAKING GRAPHICALLY

AIDS Case Reports in the U.S., 1979-1986

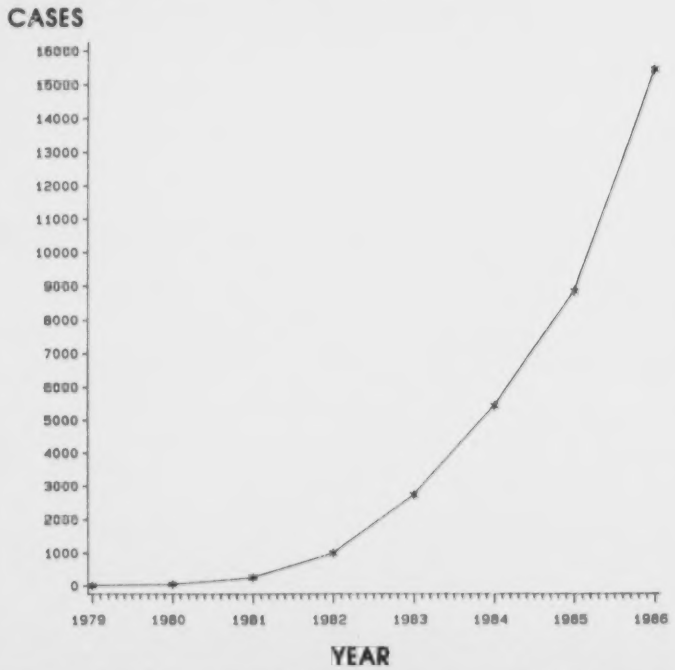

Figure from Richard G. Rogers and Robert Hackenberg, University of Colorado, "Extending Epidemiologic Transition Theory: A New Stage," paper presented at PAA annual meeting, 1987. Data are 1986 estimates from Centers for Disease Control.

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Demographers Converge on Chicago

The gardens of the Great Midwest had barely begun to bloom when some 1,100 demographers and populationists came out of hibernation and promptly descended on the U.S.'s "Second City" (actually, third, now). They came to attend the annual meeting of the Population Association of America (PAA) (main sessions April 29-May 2).

They came for the papers; they came for the speeches; they came for the usual welter of socializing and buttonholing. Despite all the resulting activity within the friendly confines of the Chicago Marriott on North Michigan Avenue, this year seemed to find the PAAers in a more easygoing mood than usual – due, perhaps, to being closer to the U.S.'s geographical center of population – the center of everything. At any rate, arguments pitting population against development, so evident in the mid-1980s, now seemed to recede a little into the background; applied demography was in the bracing spring air.

What follows is a smattering of the sessions and discussions during that eventful week.

Pre-meeting Meetings

APLIC. The 20th annual conference of the Association for Population/Family Planning Libraries and Information Centers-International (APLIC) focused on the Ins and Outs of Health and Population Data. Sessions highlighted access to government-generated information (keynote address); electronic access to population data (panel presentation); and adolescent fertility data. During the panel presentation, Steve Laue (U.S. Bureau of the Census – Chicago office) reported that the Bureau is in the process of evaluating CD ROM (compact disk, read-only memory) in its overall scheme of data and statistics distribution – with an eye toward the 1990 Census.

Adolescent fertility was covered from three perspectives. J.J. Card, sociometrics project director of the Data Archive on Adolescent Pregnancy and Pregnancy Prevention (DAAPPP) summarized the archive's components, procedures, and products. Stanley Henshaw of the Alan Guttmacher Institute (AGI) discussed measures of adolescent pregnancy by contrasting the measurement schemes of AGI, Centers for Disease Control (Atlanta), and National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). And Stephanie Ventura (NCHS) followed with a detailed review of NCHS's teenage birth statistics sources and uses, reporting that the Certificate of Live Birth will be revised in 1989 to incorporate birthing center information, complications of labor and delivery, obstetric procedures, etc.

> At PAA, brouhahas were less evident, the mood easygoing.

Psychosocial Workshop. Describing themselves as "a subversive cell within PAA," some 60 devotees of the Psychosocial Workshop gathered for this year's 15th pre-PAA, two-day round of traditionally lively talk about ongoing research. Workshop co-founder Henry David (Transnational Family Research Institute) presided at a session of reports by psychosocialists from Mexico, Denmark, Thailand, England, and California on innovative fertility-related research (much of it impossible to conduct in the United States).

In a keynote paper, famed longtime family planning promoter Donald Bogue (Social Development Center, Chicago) called on "true believers" still concerned about rapid Third World population growth to have the courage to say out loud that "two children are enough" and that ultimate world population should stop 5 billion short of what is now projected.

Also featured were user-research findings on the enthusiastic acceptance and very low failure rates of Norplant implants – one of the few contraceptive methods developed in the past 20 years, which has been used in 31 countries (including the U.S.) and is now marketed in seven – and a call for a return to qualitative research (focus

Continued on page 6

How Epidemic Is AIDS?

The scourge of AIDS has increased to some 35,518 cases in the U.S. as of May 11, 1987 to become the disease most feared by Americans.

Medical experts agree that a vaccine is unlikely until the 21st century. In the meantime, controversies swirl in the U.S. about how widespread (or mandatory) a blood test for AIDS should be, or whether public health messages should emphasize condoms or abstinence.* "AIDS has killed off the one-night stand," as one interviewed single woman told a TV reporter.

Since the first recorded U.S. AIDS case in 1981, the growth of AIDS cases has been exponential (see "Speaking Graphically," page 2). So the principal question remains: How rapid will the future spread of AIDS be? And could AIDS's own dynamics cause its spread to level off at some point?

No one knows the answers yet. But like other diseases, AIDS has to be transmitted. And if one victim transmits it to a total of more than one other person, the disease's incidence will increase at a geometric rate indefinitely. On the other hand, if one person transmits it to *less* than one person, its incidence will in all likelihood level off and decline. In the long run.

Researchers Robert May (Princeton University) and Roy Anderson (Imperial College, London) argue that, based on the precedent of a model of gonorrhea spread in which the venereal disease is maintained by a core group of sexually active people while spreading only fitfully to the less sexually active outside this subpopulation, the exponential phase of AIDS could moderate. Then the next question would be: How promiscuous does one have to be in order to get and spread the disease?

AIDS is not a particularly contagious disease; considerable sexual contact, or sharing of blood or drug needles, is usually necessary to pass on the virus. Two vital variables in the AIDS statistical equation remain unknown: the percentage of those infected by AIDS developing the disease, and the incubation period of the disease in their systems before it becomes active. A study of a small group of AIDS-infected San Francisco homosexuals suggested that 36 percent of them contracted the disease within seven years. British researcher Malcolm Rees calculates a possible 15-year average time between infection and development of AIDS. May and Anderson's own calculations show an interval of more than five years for the incubation period.

A potentially significant finding was reported in late May 1987; that the rate of U.S. military recruits testing positive for AIDS had remained steady between October 1985 and December 1986 at 0.15 percent, instead of increasing as had been expected. While the reasons are not yet clear, the most optimistic interpretation would be that it is an indication that AIDS transmissions are leveling off.

The World Health Organization presently estimates that there are 100,000 cases of AIDS worldwide, with another 5-10 million infected but presently asymptomatic. —*A.H.*

**Pleas for sexual abstinence outside of marriage have a large audience to appeal to, incidentally; nearly a third of the U.S. population—69 million—consists of unmarried people 18 and older.*

Sadik Named New UNFPA Director

Nafis Sadik

Dr. Nafis Sadik, a 25-year veteran of the population field, has been appointed the Executive Director of the UN Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), following the death of the founding Executive Director, Rafael M. Salas, on March 3, 1987.

Sadik's appointment makes her the first woman to hold such an influential and politically sensitive post in the United Nations. She is also the first woman to lead one of the UN's specialized agencies.

Sadik joined UNFPA in 1971, became Assistant Executive Director of UNFPA in 1977, and in 1982 was given the rank of Assistant Secretary General.

A native of Pakistan, Sadik served in the family planning and health field in that country for some 17 years, rising to Director General of the Pakistan Central Family Planning Council in 1970. As Director General she was responsible for planning and directing the national family planning program, including coordination of all clinical and biomedical research, and monitoring, planning and utilization of foreign assistance, policymaking, management, and evaluation.

Sadik has written a number of articles for leading publications in the family planning and health field, and edited a book, *Population: The UNFPA Experience* (New York University Press, 1984).

Sadik in turn is being succeeded as Assistant Executive Director of the UNFPA by Tatsuro Kunugi, previously the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Coordination of Kampuchean Humanitarian Assistance Programmes, a title he held from 1984 to 1987. Kunugi, a Japanese national, was Consul-General of Japan in Frankfurt from 1983 to 1984 and the Minister in the Permanent Mission of Japan to the International Organizations from 1976 to 1983. —*J.A.*

SURVEY REPORT

Turkey

PRB/Elaine Murphy

The new generation in Cappadocia, Turkey

Demand for family planning services in Turkey exceeds current availability, according to the results of the 1983 Turkish Population and Health Survey. The survey of 5,398 ever-married women under age 50 is the fourth such survey in Turkey since 1968. While the results show that both knowledge and use of contraception have increased, the majority of contraceptors rely on traditional practices such as withdrawal.

Concern about rapid population growth led the Turkish government to enact a Population Planning Law as early as 1965, establishing federal support for family planning. In 1983, a new law was passed easing curbs on sterilization and pregnancy termination. But the results of the Turkish 1985 Census show that the population, now exceeding 50 million, has grown faster than anticipated, suggesting that more government action may be needed to lower birth rates. Also, world economic recession in the early 1980s prompted many Turks working abroad in West Germany and other European countries to return home, contributing to population growth.

Although almost three-fourths of the survey respondents said they wanted only 2 or 3 children, the actual fertility rates measured an average of 4.2 births per woman for the 1978-1983 period. This was a decline from the 4.6 average for 1974-1979. Fertility has remained stubbornly high in eastern Turkey, where women average nearly 7 births, compared to a low of 3 lifetime births per woman in the western region.

Contraceptives are commonly used in Turkey. The percent of currently married women under age 50 using birth control increased from 50 percent in 1978 to 62 percent in 1983. But about one-half of this increase is due to a greater reliance on withdrawal, used by 49 percent of the women practicing family planning. Over 90 percent of the women surveyed were familiar with at least one modern contraceptive method, yet only 27 percent were using one in 1983. About one-third of these women were using the pill, another third the IUD, and 19 percent used the condom.

The report cited inadequate supplies as a major reason for the low use of modern methods, especially in the more rural eastern regions, where women depended more heavily on health or family planning centers, often far from home, for condoms and IUDs. Throughout Turkey, pills are usually purchased at pharmacies.

The prevalence of traditional methods and an increasing abortion ratio, measured at 25.6 abortions per 100 live births in 1983, indicates a high unmet demand for family planning services. Fully 78 percent of the ever-married women said they did not want any more children.

The 1983 survey measured a high infant mortality rate, 112 deaths per 1,000 live births for the 1981-1982 period. Although most Turkish women breastfeed their babies for at least the first year, enhancing infant nutrition, other traditional practices have been linked to higher infant mortality. Among these is the relatively large proportion of childbirths assisted by untrained attendants, particularly in rural areas. While in urban areas, 83 percent of the last births to respondents were attended by trained medical personnel, in rural areas that figure was only 43 percent. In eastern Turkey, only 34 percent of births were assisted by trained medical personnel; 44 percent were aided by neighbors or relatives.

Most Turkish women swaddle their babies, the survey reported. About 14 percent still pack earth into the swaddling cloth before wrapping the infant up, a traditional practice which can cause serious infection. In the eastern and central regions just over 20 percent of the women still use earth to swaddle their babies.

The survey report, published by the Turkish Institute of Population Studies, Hacettepe University, concluded that improvements in the education and status of women would enhance their acceptance of family planning and contribute to healthier lifestyles. Despite an upswing in the percentage of young women completing primary school, 41 percent of the survey respondents were illiterate and less than 10 percent had a secondary or higher education. Perhaps because of their low educational level, most Turkish women marry very young, and the average age at marriage, 17.6 years in the 1983 survey, may have declined since 1978.

—M.K.

Chicago glimpses: city skyline; PAA President Ronald Lee; Charles Westoff and Gorden De Jong.

PAAers in Chicago

Continued from page 3

group samples, ethnographic studies) to provide context for the quantitative data that now consume population researchers, though one participant objected: "They won't believe you without the numbers."

Sessions

Nonmarital Sexuality and Fertility in the Third World. Two session papers stressed understanding terms which might normally be thought of as discrete variables: married or nonmarried. In some African countries, for example, a couple's union might not be solemnized by ritual for a considerable time after they have entered into a consensual union; nonetheless, they will be considered married by the community, and children born of the union will be considered legitimate. Such status may or may not be reflected in national or international studies, according to researcher Margaret Rwabushaija (Univ. of Pennsylvania). Similarly, Katherine F. Darabi (Columbia Univ.) cautioned that in Latin America, marital status might indeed vary by self-report, official country categorization, or definitions of the World Fertility Survey.

Acceptability of New Contraceptive Methods. According to several studies, among the birth-control characteristics most desired are freedom from side effects, safety, efficacy, ease of use, and duration. One suggestion was to search for additional ways of discovering the extent of side effects, perhaps by consulting traditional healers or community confidantes. The audience agreed that the acceptability of female contraception would be enhanced by greater participation of women in the development, testing, and marketing of family planning methods.

Family Change in Western Countries. Via the literary device of a Traveler in Time, Peter MacDonald (Australian Institute of Family Studies) analyzed the past 20 years and what might strike a time traveler who last saw the world in 1967. Said traveler would be surprised by the great number of people living together without intending to marry, the widespread delay of childbearing, the high divorce rate, and the large number of people living alone. These now-accepted social changes have given greater control to individuals and families.

The USSR's life expectancy dropped 1.26 years from 1970 to 1985

Social Policy in Aging Populations. The population debate of 1987 came full circle when an official representative from the Singapore Ministry of Health, Paul P. L. Cheung, spoke on Singapore's problems with an aging population. A policy to increase fertility has recently been adopted to counter the large proportion of aged, projected to be 22 percent by early next century. The government has instituted a compulsory retirement-savings scheme whereby an employee contributes 25 percent of his salary to a retirement account managed by the government, with the employer contributing another 10 percent of his salary, for a total of 35 percent. It is not dependent on intergenerational cost subsidies, which is important as the old age ratio increases. Concerns, however, probably exist as to how to protect such large accumulations of funds from government tampering.

The Future of Marriage. Earlier work by David E. Bloom (Harvard Univ.) and Neil G. Bennett (Yale Univ.) in this area had made media headlines by forecasting gloomy future marriage prospects for women 30 and over, culminating in the bold prediction that women of this age group were more likely to be killed by a terrorist than to find a marriage partner. Their work had been followed by analysis by Jeanne E. Moorman (U.S. Census Bureau) which indicated a much more agreeable scenario for future marriage prospects. (See Sept. and Oct. *PT*.)

As the session audience, which included members of the media, waited in anticipation, the expected fireworks fizzled when Bloom decided not to reveal his and Bennett's new research figures as had been originally intended.

Their justification for withholding their revised figures was twofold: (1) a media effort to paint an adversarial relationship between their work and that of the Census Bureau, and (2) the fact that the figures from their model were very new and had not yet been completely checked by both authors.

Computers. Nancy J. McGirr (Westinghouse) evaluated six of the most used population projection packages relied on by demographers. Statistical package and data vendors were much in evidence. Donnelly Marketing presented Conquest, its slick CD ROM system, which had not only 1980

Norman Ryder accepting the Irene B. Taeuber Award; Dudley Kirk and Henry Shryock; attendees wend the exhibit area.

Census data but 1970 as well, including a host of demographic, economic, and social variables down to the tract level. This system produces maps, charts, and reports for any tract or Zip Code in the U.S. And the optical data disk containing all these data can be held between thumb and forefinger.

USSR. Diehards who stayed on for the Saturday afternoon sessions were rewarded by W. Ward Kingkade's (Census Bureau) revelation of just-received data on life expectancy in the USSR through 1985-1986, the first to be officially reported since the early 1970s. An overall life expectancy of 67.41 years in 1985 was down by 1.26 years from 68.67 in 1970. The gender gap in 1985-1986 figures between males (64 years, the same as 1958-1959) and females (73, unchanged since 1972) may be the highest in the world.

AIDS. AIDS was just touched on in sessions and papers on other topics at this year's PAA, though it was the subject of a Friday luncheon roundtable chaired by Virginia Cain (National Institute of Child Health and Human Development [NICHD]). AIDS has changed the pervasive view that sex is not an appropriate field for scientific research and also calls for more research on condoms, said Wendy Baldwin (NICHD) in a session on U.S. contraceptive use. Earlier, Gloria Kamenske (also NICHD) reported that funding is relatively abundant for research on sexually transmitted diseases, which includes AIDS.

Women's Caucus. At this Thursday noon-hour meeting it was suggested that PAA women should take on the responsibility of humanizing the PAA "culture" – introducing some participants "in touch with the real world" in order to liven the program which was described as "stiff, square, boring, cerebral, unemotional, and dominated by technology-driven males." However, one female PAA attendee elsewhere praised the meeting as "far more exciting than the American Economic Association."

Themes

Past PAA meetings have appeared to have if not formal, then discernible informal themes. Ten years ago, the theme might have been Easterlin vs. Westoff debating an imminent U.S. fertility rise or absence thereof. Data from the World Fertility Survey dominated a subsequent meeting; the population/development connection preoccupied one or two others.

By contrast, the themes running through the Chicago meeting seemed less clear. There were, however, several exhortations to merge quantitative and qualitative methods. The earlier perceived incompatibility of the two approaches had given way to mutual – if distant – respect; this year, many studies presented data in which the multiple regressions and chi-squares were bolstered by focus group reports and conversational interviews.

Demographers in the Courtroom. One issue that arose in several different contexts is the role of demographers as expert witnesses in litigation. In the session on "Issues in State and Local Demography," Felix D'Allesandro (Assistant State Demographer, State of Washington) emphasized the importance of setting forth one's assumptions regarding demographic work, particularly in population estimates and projections.

At the luncheon round table on Friday, "Demographers as Expert Witnesses," the issue of demographers' liability arose again. One pertinent comment was the observation that economists appear in court more often than demographers and yet do not appear to need liability insurance.

One question raised by several people at the round table is the impact that the new American Sociological Association (ASA) certification process might have for demographers who appear in court as expert witnesses. Will judges and juries give a certified ASA demographer more credence than one who lacks this certification?

In another session, "The Politics and Ideologies of Population Issues," Harvey M. Choldin (Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) discussed the prospect of the courts settling issues like the census undercount (e.g., New York City's suit against the Census Bureau), with the conclusion that courts are a very poor arena for settling scientific issues because of their innately adversarial nature.

Applied Demographers. In his remarks at the Annual Breakfast sponsored jointly by PAA's Committees on State and Local Demography and Business Demography, PAA President Ronald D. Lee (Univ. of California, Berkeley) noted that the applied area was PAA's most rapidly growing and dynamic subfield. The breakfast was attended by more than 100 early-rising number crunchers interested in the application of demography in business, the public sector, and other nonacademic settings and featured talks by Lou Pol (Univ. of Nebraska, Omaha) on demographic consulting for small businesses and a report on the survey of applied demographers by Dave A. Swanson (Bowling Green State Univ.)

Continued on next page

Friday roundtable lunches; Barbara Wilson, Kingsley Davis, and Nelly Van den Oever; overhead transparency.

PAAers in Chicago

Continued from preceding page

and Hallie J. Kintner (General Motors Research Laboratories).

The two committees also sponsored a well-attended evening wine-and-cheese mixer, followed by a panel session on careers for demographers in nontraditional settings organized by Lisa Olson (Bell Atlantic) and featuring Pol, Carol Shuchman (New York Port Authority), Rena Cheskis (Yale Univ.), and Jeff Tayman (San Diego Association of Governments). One reason for schools' growing interest in applied work is job placement for their demography students. A number of universities are adapting their demographic study programs to prepare students better for applied work.

At a lively session entitled "What Demographic Data Vendors Are Doing for/to Demography," *American Demographics* editor Cheryl Russell challenged demographic data vendors to let clients in on the methodology driving their updates for small areas, while data user David Glazer (Sales Evaluation Associates, Inc.) presented a list of 10 commandments for data purchasers and explored areas of ignorance on both the client and vendor side of the demographic data counter. The session on "Demography in Business" presented demographers working with business clients with the double challenge of getting across their bottom line demographic message to clients while explaining to their professional colleagues how they arrived at that message, all in less than 20 minutes. Discussant Bryant Robey (East-West Population Institute) cautioned his colleagues against over- or mis-selling demography lest it become just another marketing fad.

Some different twists on population policy questions emerged in at least two sessions, including one using policies other than family planning to affect fertility in LDCs and another on the politics and ideology of population issues. In the first session, papers by Sara Millman (Brown Univ.) and by Kenneth Chomitz (National Academy of Sciences) and Nancy Birdsall (The World Bank) cataloged divergences between individual and social costs of childbearing and the uses and limitations of incentives to bridge the gap between the two, while Terence H. Hull and Quan-He Yang (Australian National Univ.) emphasized the importance of understanding population policy in the context of broader political and economic changes in China and Robert W. Gillespie (Population Communication) poetically described the application of marketing principles in Indonesia and Thailand to generate commitment to family planning.

Awards and Presidential Address

The Dorothy S. Thomas Award for best graduate student paper on migration or economic-demographic relations was presented by Julie DaVanzo of the Rand Corporation jointly to Zeng Yi, currently the Frank W. Notestein postdoctoral fellow at Princeton Univ.'s Office of Population Research, and Andrew D. Foster, Ph.D. candidate in economics at the Univ. of California, Berkeley.

The Irene B. Taeuber Award, recognizing a career of distinguished research in demography, was presented by Linda J. Waite, also of the Rand Corporation, to Norman Ryder (Office of Population Research at Princeton Univ.). The citation mentioned Ryder's significant contributions in highlighting cohort analysis as a vehicle for understanding social change and his many insights into linkages between cohort and period behavior.

PAA President Ron Lee demonstrated in his presidential address what comes of crossing a philosopher with a mathematical demographer energized by a vigorous swim. Entitled "Population Regulation Among Humans and Other Animals," his address linked long-run trends in human population growth to the experience of other animal populations via the process of "homeostasis," i.e., the tendency of species to maintain internal stability through a system of responses that compensate for environmental changes.

For most of human history, the relevant environmental conditions were those relating to such basic needs as food and shelter, and population growth was slow enough to suggest that humans share homeostatic adaptivity with other animal populations. Malthus incorporated this notion in the negative feedback theory that he used to explain population swings in preindustrial populations, and Lee's own work with mathematical simulation of links between preindustrial population movements and food prices in Europe supports a homeostatic view of most of human population history. Evidence for the period of very rapid growth that the human population has experienced since the 19th century is much more difficult to assess. But even if this experience represents an exception to homeostasis, Lee's view is that over the long run, environmental limits will reemerge.

Sidebars

The Annual PAA Fun Run gained new stature this year when PAA President-Elect Reynolds Farley (Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor) showed up to witness the 7 a.m. Saturday start. In coat and tie, he wished the assembled

multitudes well before going off to indulge in breakfast while a dozen-plus stalwarts (down two dozen from the previous year) galloped along the Chicago lake front.

On the party scene, the 46-story Marriott was comfortable and capacious, but insisted on being the sole beverage supplier for a major party held in a downstairs meeting room, a situation that demonstrated that monopoly does not maximize distribution.

Perhaps the liveliest party was one held to honor Marta Tienda as the new director of the Univ. of Chicago's Community and Family Study Center, succeeding Donald Bogue, which began at noon Friday on the hotel's top floor and was still going strong at midnight.

This was the first PAA annual meeting in some years without Lone Star longnecks in evidence.

As at every PAA meeting, some popular sessions unavoidably ended up being held in closets; small-attendance sessions were presented in giant ballrooms (where every dais had its own bowl or two of hard candy, courtesy of the hotel). Copies of papers and handouts were predictably in short supply, and assertive audience members sometimes had to charge up the aisle to pluck handouts from the hander-outers.

This was the first year of a three-year experiment with Saturday afternoon sessions, which ended at 3:20 p.m.

Gordon De Jong (Pennsylvania State Univ.) was appointed editor of *Demography* for a three-year term. He will succeed current editor Ann Miller (Univ. of Pennsylvania), beginning in January 1988.

PAA Affairs also has new editors, effective Spring 1987: Marilyn McMillen (National Cancer Institute) and David McMillen (U.S. Census Bureau). They succeed Jeff Evans (NICHD).

The word "econometric" (describing statistical economics, or economic statistics) seemed to echo through a number of sessions. This year's buzz word?

Next year PAA meets in New Orleans.

– compiled by Bob Gardner, Art Haupt, David Lamphere, Tom Merrick, Denise D. Dowdell, Elaine Murphy, Bill O'Hare, Wendy Patriquin, Nelly Van den Oever, Jean van der Tak, Dorsey Vera, Alex von Cube, and Nancy Yinger. Kingsley Davis group photo by Jean van der Tak; other photos by Art Haupt.

SOFTWHERE

The United Nations Population Division offers several demographic software programs written for the IBM PC. The newest is MORTPAK-LITE. This program produces routines of indirect techniques for mortality analysis. There are 16 routines to choose from, including seven on life tables and five for various mortality measures.

Some of the routines: estimation of single-year probabilities of dying for ages under 5; calculation of a stable population based on age-specific death rates and the intrinsic growth rate; and indirect estimation of male and female adult mortality from data on proportion of the ever-married population. The package is menu driven, which guides the user though a very logical choice of instructions.

MORTPAK-LITE is not copy protected and runs on an IBM PC or compatible personal computer with at least 384K of memory and two 360K disk drives or a hard disk. The standard version requires a math co-processor, but versions can be ordered without this requirement. The program was prepared by the UN's Population Division in cooperation with the Software Development Group of the Dept. of Technical Cooperation for Development. For further information contact: Director, Population Division, United Nations, New York, N.Y. 10017. *– D.L.*

POPULATION UPDATE

Estimated United States Population:

As of January 1, 1987	242,742,000
As of January 1, 1986	240,523,000

The above estimates include armed forces overseas and are from U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 1002.

Estimated World Population:

As of May 1987	5,019,000,000
Annual growth	87,000,000

Estimated by extrapolation from the mid-1987 population on PRB's *1987 World Population Data Sheet*.

Latest Provisional Statistics for the U.S.: January 1987

	12 months ending with January					
	Number		Rate			
Item	1987	1986	1987	1986	1985	1984
Live births	3,712,000	3,746,000	15.4	15.7	15.6	15.5
Deaths	2,095,000	2,082,000	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.6
Natural increase	1,617,000	1,664,000	6.7	7.0	6.9	6.9
Marriages	2,393,000	2,430,000	9.9	10.2	10.5	10.4
Divorces	1,148,000	1,189,000	4.8	5.0	4.9	5.0
Infant deaths	38,600	39,400	10.4	10.6	10.7	10.9
Population base (in millions)	...	...	241.1	238.5	236.3	233.9

Note. Rates are given per 1,000 population, except for infant deaths, which are given per 1,000 live births. Rates are based on revised population estimates from the 1980 Census.

Source. Monthly Vital Statistics Report (Vol. 36, No. 1) from the National Center for Health Statistics.

TAKE A NUMBER

Census Report on U.S. Black Population: The Census Bureau has issued a report, based on 1980 Census data, which provides a central source of data on blacks in the U.S. A "Supplementary Report" of the 1980 Census, *Summary Characteristics of the Black Population for States and Selected Counties and Places: 1980*, shows that the black population increased from 11.1 percent of the total U.S. population in 1970 to 11.7 in 1980. In the South Region, however, the proportion of blacks decreased from 19.1 to 18.6 percent over the same period. Counties with the highest proportion black were all located in the South; the top three were Macon Co., Ala. (84 percent), Jefferson Co., Miss. (82 percent), and Hancock Co., Ga. (78 percent). Mound Bayou, Miss., had the highest percentage of places of 2,500 or more, with 99.7 percent black. Labor force participation rates for blacks were highest in Inglewood, Calif., 79 and 70 percent for males and females, respectively, and lowest in East St. Louis, Ill. (58 and 42 percent). Blacks with the highest family incomes lived in the suburbs of Washington, D.C.; salaries averaged about $23,000 in both Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, Md.

Well, Yes: "Does this mean that we have to be concerned about world population growth *again*?" PRB's press release accompanying the *1987 World Population Data Sheet* contained the news that, due to an increase in China's birth rate during 1986, the total world birth rate has actually increased. Many of the followup phone calls from the media and interested public were revealing of the way in which world population trends are generally perceived. The above question approximates the tenor of the public response to the possibility of continued world population growth. While our treatment of the world population situation has become more refined in some ways than the more simplistic approach of the 1960s, it is interesting to see the way public perception changes. There has, after all, been little change in actual trends of world population for quite some time. The same could be said of Toxic Shock Syndrome, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, Cambodia – all are problems which we hear little of today, but which are nonetheless still very much with us. Perhaps the answer is simply that a crisis can only hold our attention for so long.

Here and there... The U.S. milestone of 100 million in housing units was projected to occur this year; the chances favor the 100 millionth unit's being a single family residence in the South... the U.S. median age hit 31.8 in 1986, up from 30.0 in 1980. The 35-44 age group has been the fastest growing in the 1980s, while those 15-24 showed the largest decline... China reports that living standards improved from 1985 to 1986. Urban families enjoyed a 13-percent increase in real income, although the increase was much less for farm families, 3.2 percent. This was accompanied by a sharp rise in savings deposits...

And the answer is... watching a recent edition of *Jeopardy*, the U.S. television quiz show, we assumed a smug attitude when the topic turned to "World Population." The "answer" posed was: "With a birth rate of zero, this country is certain to remain the world's smallest state." "What is Pitcairn Island?!" we shouted, thinking that Fletcher Christian's descendants had had an unreproductive year. Not so, as the appropriate response was "What is Vatican City?" The contestant got it right for $400 and we didn't. Oh well, and all this education... *– C.H.*

ADDENDA

The Hill

The Hill. We all talk about it. Saying, for example, that so-and-so is "over the hill." Assuming, of course, that one is not under it before going over it, the Hill is crossed by us all at some point. But what is it? Perhaps the best definition is the point on the life table when one's age is greater than the "average number of years remaining" or, put another way, one has landed past the halfway point of one's life, life-expectancy-wise. For the U.S. population the "Hill" resides at about 38.5 years; cross that point and it's a one-way trip down the old mountain. White females have the most climbing to do: their Hill doesn't come until 40.5, three years after white males. For black females, the Hill is right on the 38.5 national average, but for black males, it's an early 34.5.

CURRENT READINGS

PRB welcomes materials on population topics for possible inclusion in Current Readings. Publishers may address review copies to Book Review Editor, POPULATION TODAY, Population Reference Bureau, 777 14th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005.

FAMILY PLANNING WITHIN PRIMARY HEALTH CARE, edited by F. Curtiss Swezy and Cynthia P. Green. Washington, D.C.: National Council for International Health, 1987. 114 pages. $10.95 for NCIH members; $12.95 for nonmembers (plus $2.50 for postage and handling).

This volume is an anthology of papers presented at a workshop sponsored by the National Council for International Health (NCIH) on March 12-14, 1986, for private voluntary organizations (PVOs) involved in the provision of primary health care in developing countries. The goal of the workshop was to underscore the importance of family planning as a significant maternal and child health care intervention and, by implication, to encourage PVOs to expand their activities to include family planning.

The workshop had both plenary sessions and panel discussions. Papers from both forums are included in this volume. The plenary papers are more interesting to the general reader, being less focused on the particular concerns of the PVO audience. For example, Dr. Allan Rosenfield's paper, "Health Aspects of Family Planning," summarizes both the World Fertility Survey findings about the positive influence of birth spacing on infant mortality and the crucial role family planning can play in maternal health programs. Dr. Fred Sai's paper, "Ethical Issues in Providing Family Planning within Primary Health Care," also gives a good overview of ethical issues that countries (and PVOs) confront as they begin to provide contraceptive services, for example: Will contraceptive availability lead to promiscuity? Or should adolescents have free access to information and services and if so, with or without parental consent? The panel papers seem more designed to highlight points to be expanded in the small group discussions, but might be instructive to PVOs or others thinking of providing family planning services. The section containing brief project summaries provides a good array of the kinds of family planning activities that primary health PVOs are already undertaking.

The relationship between health and family planning is an important issue which is currently being emphasized in the population literature. This volume is a modest but nonetheless useful contribution to that literature.

– Nancy Yinger

THE NEW HEARTLAND, by John Herbers. New York: Times Books, 1986. 228 pages. $19.95. ISBN 08129-1128-4.

The U.S.'s "new heartland," according to *New York Times* correspondent Herbers, consists of new low-density areas that are a mixture of rural, suburban, and small-town population types and yet with the flavor of none of them: the "big new spread-out small town." (One modest example: State College, Pa., a bustling, economically diverse metro area of over 100,000 population that nonetheless manages to have a density of about one person for every six acres.) This dispersion is occurring in many places nationally, Herbers writes, because "Americans want space, not density." Now, thanks to new economic patterns and enhanced communications and transportation, they can have it – with many implications for the nation's economy, government structure, and political outlook.

– Art Haupt

PACIFIC BRIDGES: The New Immigration from Asia and the Pacific Islands, edited by James T. Fawcett and Benjamin V. Cariño. Staten Island, N.Y.: Center for Migration Studies, 1987. (Published in association with the East-West Population Institute, Honolulu.) 489 pages. $17.50 cloth; $12.95 paper. ISBN 0-934733-10-4.

This book provides an overview of the facts, theories, and trends concerning a major theater of international migration. In 19 articles, a group of Asian-migration researchers examine the scope and shape of immigration flows from Asia to the U.S. and other destinations; the changing immigration policies; and the impacts of these important population streams on both receivers and senders. It's important, the editors point out, to appreciate the complexities and diversities in the flows and counterflows of people, in an age when the Pacific Basin has seemingly become a pond.

– A.H.

Books Received

BIRTH AND FORTUNE: The Impact Of Numbers on Personal Welfare, 2nd ed. by Richard A. Easterlin. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 228 pages. $12.95 paper.

THE HUMAN IMPACT ON THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, 2nd ed., by Andrew Goudie. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 338 pages.

RECENSEMENT GENERAL DE LA POPULATION ET DE L'HABITAT, 1987, by République Rwandaise. 7 volumes.
vol 1: Effectifs de La Population
vol 2: Activité Economique
vol 3: Fécondité - Mortalité
vol 4: Ménages et Habitat
vol 5: Secteur Urban
vol 6: Analyse
vol 7: Méthodologie

THE OWN-CHILDREN METHOD OF FERTILITY ESTIMATION, by Lee-Jay Cho et al. Honolulu, Hawaii: University of Hawaii Press, December, 1986. 188 pages. $25.00.

THE WORLD FACTBOOK NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHT-SIX, by Central Intelligence Agency. Springfield, Va.: National Technical Information Service, 1986. 291 pages. $28.00.

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- ☐ Europe's Second Demographic Transition, by Dirk J. van de Kaa

VOLUME 41 (1986)
- ☐ Demographics and Housing in America, by George Sternlieb and James W. Hughes
- ☐ World Population in Transition, by Thomas W. Merrick, with PRB staff
- ☐ Population Pressures in Latin America, by Thomas W. Merrick, with PRB staff
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- ☐ Delayed Childbearing in the U.S.: Facts and Fictions, by Wendy H. Baldwin and Christine Windquist Nord
- ☐ Understanding U.S. Fertility: Findings from the National Survey of Family Growth, Cycle III, by William F. Pratt et al.

VOLUME 38 (1983)
Third World Family Planning Programs: Measuring the Costs, by Nancy Yinger et al.
- ☐ China: Demographic Billionaire, by H. Yuan Tien
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- ☐ The Changing American Family, by Arland Thornton and Deborah Freedman

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